(c) *Regulated Market at Tiptur.*—During the fortnight under report, 5,128 bags of Copra, 347 carts or 2,57,699 Cocoanuts and 61 carts or 65,500 lbs. of Seegu were auctioned in the Market. A sum of Rs. 290·2 0 were collected by the Market Committee as Market Cess, Licence Fee, etc.

(d) *Regulated Market at Chitaldrug.*—During the fortnight under report, 5,439 maunds of small cotton, 1,597 bags of Groundnut Pods, 1,062 maunds of Big Cotton, 502 pallas of Gingelly seed, 21 pallas of Cowpea, 19 pallas of Castor seed, 19 pallas of Horsegram, 18 pallas of Coriander and 17 pallas of Blackgram were auctioned in the Market.

III. GRADING AND STANDARDISATION.

All the five Egg Grading Stations continued to work and a total number of 33,366 eggs valued at Rs. 4,321 were graded during the fortnight under report. A sum of Rs. 30 was collected as Grading Fee at the Government Egg Grading Station, Mysore.

IV. CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING.

The milk handled by some of the Milk Co-operative Societies in the State during the fortnight under report is as follows:—

(1) The Mysore Co-operative Milk Supply Union, Ltd., Bangalore .... 12,000 lbs.
(2) The Milk Supply Society, Mysore .... 600 seers.

IV. MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

The arrangements made for the collection of daily and weekly market rates of certain agricultural commodities and Live-stock products from Bangalore and mofussil markets and broadcasting the same through the All-India Radio, Mysore, was continued. Arrangements were also made to publish them in certain local Newspapers for the information of the public.

Information regarding the availability and prices of Fruits, Vegetables, Agricultural commodities and Live-stock products were furnished to the Military Authorities and other Military Contractors.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS.

Sri Pardumansingh, B.Sc., Assistant Marketing Officer, Delhi, visited the State during the fortnight under report for collecting information on Chillies for the All-India Report on the marketing of chillies. Necessary assistance in collecting the required information was rendered to him by the Marketing Assistant of this Department.

(P N. No. 262—9-1-52.)

Press Note.

It is notified for general information that copies of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly (daily parts) are available for sale at the Government Central Book Depot, Bangalore, at Re. 0-4-0 a copy.

(P.N. No. 263—9-1-1952.)

Press Note.

Progress under Rural Electrification Scheme, Chikmagalur District.

Estimates amounting to Rs. 14,48,000 for the electrification of Taluk Headquarters like Narasimharajapura, Koppa and Sringeri and Yelambalase, Balehonnur and Jayapura have been sanctioned in Chikmagalur District. Scarcity and high price of essential materials like copper wire, steel poles, transformers, etc., and transport difficulties come in the way of speedy execution of all the sanctioned works. Nevertheless every endeavour is being made to push through the works sanctioned.

(P N. No. 264—9-1-1952.)

Press Note.

WORKING OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE, DURING DECEMBER 1951.

The Employment Exchange, No. 3, Lady Curzon Road, Civil Station, Bangalore, registered 1,029 persons during December 1951 of whom 173 were ex-service personnel, 33 women and 823 others. The number of vacancies reported from the Central Government Departments and State Government Departments was 27 and from private employers 9, thus bringing the total to 36.

Two hundred and fifty-six persons (120 ex-service personnel and 136 others) were referred to employers against the reported vacancies.

Seventy-two persons were placed in employment during the month as against 106 in the previous month. Of those placed, 28 were ex-service personnel and 44 others.

The registration of 148 ex-service personnel and 824 civilians lapsed during the month. Five hundred and eighty-one ex-service personnel and 2,849 civilians were one the live register of the exchange at the end of the month for employment assistance. From the inception of the organisation up to the end of December 1951, 58,747 persons were registered 21,155 were submitted against reported vacancies and 4,512 were placed in employment.

(P.N. No. 265—10th January 1952).

Press Note.

PROGRESS UNDER RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME, SHIMOGA DISTRICT.

Estimates amounting to Rs. 3,04,820 for the electrification of Gajanur and Hosanagar in Shimoga District have been sanctioned. Scarcity and high price of essential materials like copper wire, steel poles, transformers, etc., and transport difficulties come in the way of speedy execution of all the sanctioned works. Nevertheless, every endeavour is being made to push through the works sanctioned.

(P. N. No. 266—10th January 1952.)

Press Note.

The following Press Note issued by the Election Commission regarding the recording of Ballot Paper numbers is republished for general information :—

RECORDING OF BALLOT PAPER NUMBERS WILL NOT VITIATE SECRECY OF VOTING.

"Some apprehension seems to exist that the secrecy of ballot, which guarantees the freedom of voting, would be vitiated as a result of the procedure which requires the Polling Officers to record in a copy of the electoral roll the serial number of the ballot paper given to the elector. Such apprehension is groundless.

Polling Officers are required to record the serial number of the ballot paper issued to an elector by the Statutory Rules made under the Representation of the People Act, 1951. This is done in order to help, if necessary, any Election Tribunal that may be set up on an election petition in finding out the full facts for a correct decision of the election dispute. The electoral roll on which are recorded the serial numbers of the ballot papers issued to the voters must be sealed with the seals of the Polling Officers and the candidates' agents immediately after polling is over in the polling station. This sealed packet cannot under the law be opened by any body at any time except under the specific order of a competent court or of an Election Tribunal.

No Polling Officer or other Government official can find out the name of the candidate in whose favour a voter has cast his vote, for every ballot box will be sealed immediately after polling and will be opened only at the time of counting. Even if a Polling Officer happens to be employed also for counting of votes, it will be most unlikely that he will have the ballot boxes of his polling station to count. At any rate it will be physically impossible for a Polling Officer to remember the serial number of the ballot paper issued to any individual voter at the time of polling and to connect one with the other.

The sealed list of electors on which the serial numbers of the ballot papers are recorded, will be destroyed by fire without opening the seals after one year if no Election Tribunal or Court has occasion to call for it.

The above should reassure every voter that neither the secrecy of the ballot nor the freedom to vote as one likes can be violated by the fact that Polling Officers will record on the electoral rolls the serial numbers of the ballot papers supplied to the electors."

(P. N. No. 267—11th January 1952).

D. R. RAMAIYA,
6739 For *Principal Information Officer.*